

Proceeding: In the Matter of 1998 Biennial Regulatory Review -- Amendment of Part of the ☒ Record 1 of 3

Applicant Name: Richard Ward

Proceeding Name: 98-143

Author Name:

15100689

Lawfirm Name:

Contact Name: applicant_name

Contact Email: reward@hialoha.net

Address Line 1: Pobox 4877

Address Line 2:

City: Kailua-Kona

State: HI ☒

Zip Code: 06745 Postal Code: 4877

Submission Type: CO ☒

Submission Status: ACCEPTED ☒

Viewing Status: UNRESTRICTED ☒

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Confirmation # 199891562068

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Confirmation # 199891213384

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Confirmation # 1998830456264

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09/01/98

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SEP - 1 1998

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Federal Communications Commission
1270 Fairfield Road
Gettysburg, Pa. 17325-7245

August 31, 1998

Re: FCC NPRC WT Docket 98-143

To Whom It May Concern:

I have been an active licensed amateur radio operator since 1992. I believe amateur radio is a valuable national resource. I have been teaching basic amateur skills and have experienced the joy of sharing electronic learning with many young people who have no formal options for learning basic electronics.

I have found that all of those who have started out with a great deal of enthusiasm about amateur radio have lost interest and become inactive when faced with learning an outdated mode of communication, morse code. In this fast paced world of changing technologies most new "hams" find the emphasis placed on morse code to be a "political roadblock".

It is my opinion that amateur radio needs major changes in order to interest new, younger, operators who will experiment with newer digital technologies. These operators should not be limited to frequencies above 30MHZ.

In July of 1998 the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) made a proposal to the Commission to streamline and simplify the amateur radio service. I believe this proposal, exactly as written, would best serve the needs of the amateur community and the commission. It addresses the redundancy in the license classes and it also suggests a reduction to the over-emphasis in the morse code requirements.

Please, for the sake of all the young people who need to have a practical form of motivation to learn and develop new techno-skills, adopt the changes recommended by the ARRL.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Richard Ward (WH6FC)
P.O.Box 4877
Kailua-Kona, Hawaii 96745-4877
(808) 929-7673

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